

**TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH  
BEACHFRONT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**June 9, 2022  
10:00 A.M.**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Chairman Dallas Lovelace, and Dave Blauch, Bob Ringer (by conference call), Paul Oakley, Pat Deloach, Matthew Kizer, Stanley Hergott, Committee Members.

**Present Ex-Officio:** Town Administrator Iris Hill

**Staff President:** Assistant Town Administrator Mark Aakhus, Municipal Clerk Dee Stalvey

**Call to Order**

Chairman Lovelace called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes – May 12, 2022**

Mr. Hergott moved to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2022, Beachfront Management Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Deloach and unanimously approved.

**Comments from Town Administrator**

Town Administrator Hill had no comments at this time.

**Old Business**

**A. CSE Groin Project**

Town Administrator Hill noted Steve Traynum was on Edisto Beach yesterday, and he looked at Groin 2 again. He is looking into getting a maintenance permit so work can begin immediately. Work will begin on Groin 28 and Groin 29 after turtle season. He will draw up specifications, discuss with DHEC, then the work will be bid.

**B. Nourishment Funding and USACE Update**

On June 15, we should know whether the \$7.5 million funding has been allocated to us. Town Administrator Hill noted the House included the money in their proposed budget, but the Senate did not have it in their budget; our lobbyist shared this sort of situation is not unusual. Mr. Kizer noted in the Beachfront Management Comprehensive Plan, Colleton County support is mentioned, and he asked if Colleton County has made a commitment to assist us with these projects. Town Administrator Hill noted they have not. At a meeting, the Colleton County Council discussed plans for a meeting with the school board and other municipal councils in Colleton County, which is a very large group and may not be helpful.

Mr. Hergott asked about the grouting on the groins and whether this was an effective means of keeping rocks in place. Town Administrator Hill replied the grouting helps keep the rocks from being moved by wave action. This particular issue with the groin is at landward.

**C. Dune Protection-Discuss how to mitigate or stop walkers from entering the dunes at high tide in some areas**

- Dr. Lovelace noted that between Beach Access 31 and Beach Access 32 one cannot go through the area approximately 90 minutes before high tide and 90 minutes after. Individuals will trample through the dunes and the Burns' house with no regard for property. All signage regarding staying off the dunes has been washed away. Beach Access 31 is at the end of Point Street; there is a seawall there and the water is now starting to erode the seawall, approximately 25 feet away from the house. Chairman Lovelace noted signage is needed at this point. Town Administrator Hill agreed. Following discussion on sign verbiage, Town Administrator Hill will update the Committee once appropriate signage has been determined.
- The dune mats on Beach Access 2 and Beach Access 28 have been kicked up by the winds and now sand has gathered underneath them, so these need to be adjusted. Assistant Town Administrator Mark Aakhus will take care of this.

**New Business**

**A. Adam Bode, SC DHEC – Critical Line Questions**

- Mr. Bode noted he deals with the critical line and the setback lines and noted that he will do the custom signage for the dune signs and will talk further with Ms. Hill and Mr. Aakhus.
- For the groin work, Mr. Bode will share with his permitting colleague about the possibility of amending the permit. Mr. Kizer also asked whether the economic hard time period is still in effect, perhaps it was extended? Mr. Bode will check on this as well.
- Regarding sand scraping from the Sound to beachside, Mr. Bode informed the Committee this would be a major activity, with potential involvement from the Army Corps of Engineers and perhaps even Fish and Wildlife. This would be a multi-faceted, multi-agency situation. Town Administrator Hill noted the Town would like to permit a type of recycle option so we can do this under a continuous or recurring basis; therefore, as the sand shifts, we can recycle it back and use it. It would be optimal since the sand is there, and when needed, we can do so without getting re-permitted every time.
- Chairman Lovelace asked if there are steps Mr. Burns can take to protect his property. Town Administrator Hill noted that he can request an emergency permit, and he can bring in sand to protect his property. It must be within 20 feet of his property.
- Mr. Bode noted his work also includes the marshside, not just beachside. The number of critical area requests they've received has increased from 800 requests to 2000 requests this year, and not enough manpower for all this. They have a backlog of 500 requests, and they are trying to decrease this backlog during the summer by hiring staff and interns. Mr. Bode emphasized these requests are for the marshside, not beachside. Ms. Hill noted it is taking over a year for dock permits. Mr. Bode said requests will increase as the development continues on the coast. Iris noted marshside will need to be looked at eventually due to rising sea levels.

- Mr. Ringer asked about the setback lines and the OCRM moving back the setback lines as several property owners in the 300-400 block had an appeal from setting this back; does Mr. Bode know where they stand? Mr. Bode will need to check the data; he thinks all have either been settled or held back – no open appeals. When boundaries are re-adjusted, meetings will be held with DHEC to hear concerns.
- All thanked Mr. Bode for his time today and for joining us.

**B. Shore Bird Signage – South End of Edisto Island**

- Bess Kellett informed Town Administrator Hill that some individuals shared with her Wilson’s Piping Plover birds with babies. Red Knots, which are protected, and other migratory birds are at the south end of Edisto Beach. Unfortunately, dogs and children were chasing the birds. Ms. Kellett and other individuals would like to put up signs during nesting season and they would put up the signs, and also remove the signs after nesting season.
- Following discussion regarding possible signage, Mr. Oakley made a motion that since this is Ms. Kellett’s area of expertise, Town Administrator Hill should contact Ms. Kellett and see what can be done with the bird signage. Mr. Blauch seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

**C. Other problem areas or issues**

- Chairman Lovelace asked Ms. Hill to refresh his memory regarding Groin 31 and Groin 32, and the reason why work is not being done on those groins. Town Administrator Hill replied there wasn’t anything we could do but add sand, and we need a major permit for this. Town Administrator Hill will double-check this information and share it with the Committee.
- Mr. Blauch noted the wall near the Pavilion is holding up well and doing what it should be doing.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Blauch made a motion to adjourn at 10:43 a.m.

APPROVED BY THE BEACHFRONT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



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Dominica Stalvey, Municipal Clerk  
September 8, 2022